

REMARKS

As stated in the Notice of Allowance mailed March 22, 2005, claims 1-7 and 11-62 of the present application stand allowed. Claims 8-10 were previously canceled.

I. Withdrawal from Issue

Applicants wish to have the present application withdrawn from issue.

If a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114 is filed with a submission and the requisite fee prior to payment of the issue fee, an application may be withdrawn from issue, and a petition under § 1.313(a) is not required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.313(a).

Applicants have not paid the issue fee in the present application and file herewith a RCE with amendments and a supplemental information disclosure statement.

This RCE filed with these amendments is being sought for the purpose to permit consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under § 1.97 included herewith. The Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under § 1.97 qualifies as a submission. MPEP § 1308 I(A).

II. Amendments

With the above amendments, claims 54, 55, 57, and 58 have been amended. No new matter has been added by way of the above amendments.

Claims 54, 55, 57 and 58 have been amended by changing the tense of the transitional phrase "comprising" to "comprises". Claim 55 has also been amended to correct the typographical error in the spelling of "nephropathy".

III. Conclusion

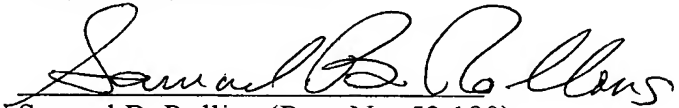
Other than the fee for the request for continued examination, Applicants believe that no additional fee is necessary. However, should a fee be deemed to be necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required by this action or any future action to Deposit Account No. 50-3216.

Should the Examiner have any questions relating to the instant application or the references included, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (336) 841-0300 ext. 159 to discuss any issues.

Date:

April 28, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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